

City Council Work Session Summary – March 29, 2021

1. Civility Project/Speak Your Peace Presentation

- North Coast Communications representative Rob Karwath gave a presentation on nine tools of civility – 1) pay attention; 2) listen; 3) be inclusive; 4) not gossip; 5) show respect; 6) be agreeable; 7) apologize; 8) give constructive criticism; and 9) take responsibility.
- Mr. Karwath also presented a resolution to agree to follow the above tools that was adopted in Duluth, and urged the city to adopt such if interested.
- Council also indicated “trust” as an issue of importance.
- Following discussion, consensus was to have the resolution presented at the April 5, 2021 council meeting for possible adoption.

2. Committee Structure Discussion

- Council Member Davis requested a discussion be held regarding the current committee structure and possible ways to improve the structure or remove it entirely.
- Discussions included: revising the current committee structure, eliminating the committee structure entirely, have all information presented to council at the same time at a council meeting.
- City Administrator Gramentz was asked what process other cities use to present information to Council. Mr. Gramentz had surveyed several cities and shared the information.
- Following discussion, consensus was to have City Administrator Gramentz bring back to Council different type(s) of structure whereby all members hear the information at the same time.

3. City Hall/Community Center and Local Option Sales Tax Projects Discussion

- Discussion items included: put energy toward city hall/community center and place civic center projects on hold until further information is obtained; proceed with current process; re-prioritize projects; etc.
- City Administrator Gramentz updated the Council on the status of bids for the various sales tax projects.
- Following discussion, Recreation Director Baumgarn was directed to provide a list of the activities/events that use the Civic Center, revenues generated, and the size of various baseball fields, and report back to Council.
- City Administrator Gramentz was directed to provide the following information to the Council: For the local sales tax projects - 1) a financial report including the projected revenues; 2) true costs of operating said projects, including depreciation; and 3) council make decision based on information received. In regard to the community center – when the financial report is provided, decisions can and will be made.

4. Adjourn

- Adjourned at 7:50 p.m. upon motion by Council Member Fagerlie, seconded by Council Member Asmus.